# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY APPELLATE PANEL

### for the Eighth Circuit

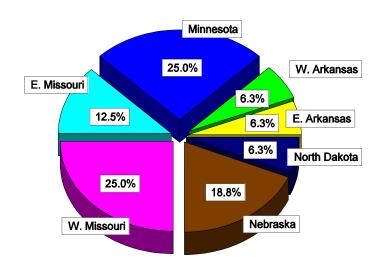
# STATISTICAL REPORT JANUARY 1, 2003 thru March 31, 2003

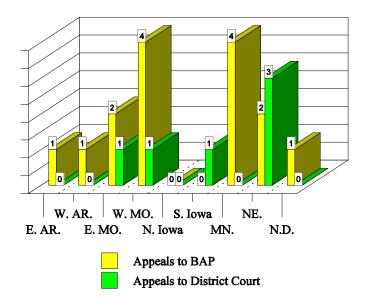
#### **New Case Filings**

Sixteen cases were docketed in the first three months of 2003. Four of these cases (25%) were filed by pro se litigants. Of the cases filed, twelve were appeals from contested matters and four were appeals from adversary proceedings. The graphics below illustrate the breakdown of case origin by district.

#### **New Cases**

| Eastern Arkansas | 1  |
|------------------|----|
| Western Arkansas | 1  |
| Northern Iowa    | 0  |
| Southern Iowa    | 0  |
| Minnesota        | 4  |
| Eastern Missouri | 2  |
| Western Missouri | 4  |
| Nebraska         | 3  |
| North Dakota     | 1  |
| TOTAL            | 16 |





## **District Court Elections**

The chart to the left compares the number of appeals taken to the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel with those taken to the District Courts. In the first quarter of 2003, twenty-one appeals were taken from the Bankruptcy Courts. Fifteen of those cases (71%) were appealed to and remained with the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel; six of the cases (29%) were appealed directly to or were transferred to the District Courts.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Case Processing Time**

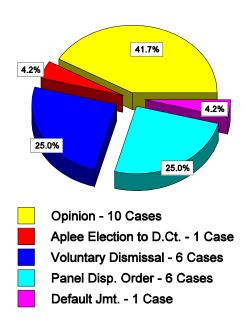
Listed in the table below are average processing times calculated for cases submitted on the merits which were subsequently closed between January 1, 2003 and March 31, 2003.

| Interval:                | 1             | 2             | 3           | Total      |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| From:                    | Docketing     | Aplee's Brief | Submission  | Processing |
| То:                      | Aplee's Brief | Submission    | Disposition | Time       |
| Cases Submitted w/Arg.   | 71 days       | 47 days       | 23 days     | 141 days   |
|                          | 2.3 months    | 1.5 months    | .8 months   | 4.6 months |
| Cases Submitted w/o Arg. | 82 days       | 21 days       | 35 days     | 138 days   |
|                          | 2.7 months    | .7 months     | 1.1 months  | 4.5 months |
| All                      | 76 days       | 34 days       | 29 days     | 139 days   |
| Cases                    | 2.5 months    | 1.1 months    | .9 months   | 4.5 months |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>These figures do not include appeals taken to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Arkansas.

#### **Panel Referrals**

In the first quarter of 2003, six referrals were made to Administrative Panels; one of those cases was subsequently referred back to the panel, resulting in a total of seven Administrative Panel referrals. Three cases were submitted on the merits without oral argument and five cases were submitted on the merits after oral argument. Hearings were held in St. Paul and Kansas City. In addition, a hearing was held by video-conference between Kansas City and Des Moines.

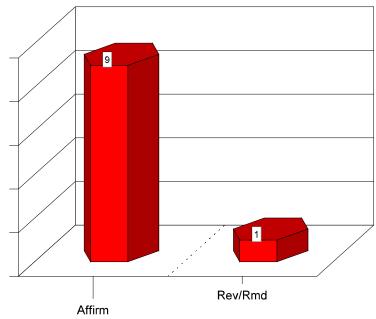


#### **Case Dispositions**

Twenty-four cases were closed in the first three months of 2003. The Panel wrote a total of ten opinions which disposed of ten cases. To the left is a breakdown of the method by which each case was closed.

#### **Opinion Breakdown**

The chart to the right breaks down each dispositive opinion by its outcome. As shown in the chart, 90% of the opinions affirmed the Bankruptcy Court decision.



### Appeals to the U.S. Court of Appeals

Five notices of appeal were taken to the Court of Appeals from the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel in the first quarter of 2003. In addition, twelve cases were pending before the Court of Appeals at the beginning of the year. Four cases were closed by the Court of Appeals during the last three months, leaving a total of thirteen pending cases. Following is a breakdown of the method by which BAP cases appealed to the Court of Appeals were closed:

| Affirmed | <br> |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | <br> |  |  |  |  | 3 |
|----------|------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|------|--|--|--|--|---|
| Remanded |      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | <br> |  |  |  |  | 1 |